

12th March 9

Hon. A. L. Snowden

Suptdt.

Sir

I herewith present the Monthly Report on Bullion Melting which is quite satisfactory both in Gold & Silver, in the average losses in the Daily meltings, & in the number of melts condemned, excepting in the apparent excessive loss on the 26th Inst.

Such losses have often occurred before, in consequence of the intermingling of clippings, from different lots, under work, & caused by the crowded state of our vault. Thus on the 24th there was a loss of 970 oz., but a gain of 940 oz. on the 25th. In this case however we have searched through all our books, in which the silver of the 26th Inst. is employed, but have as yet found no clue to the loss.

We have had a similar experience before, which we attri-
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to a clerical error, which was found after two weeks' search, & the accidental reduplication of a bar discovered. In like manner, I think that the present apparent loss is a clerical error, for the preceding & succeeding days' workings are quite regular, altho they somewhat depend on each other, and moreover the Assay Report of the day in question was quite uniform also, showing that all the silver had been melted with its due proportion of copper. All connected with this office are of one opinion on the subject, that the error is clerical.

It is satisfactory to know however that in spite of the apparent loss, & even estimating it as loss, the average of the month is good, showing the wastage to be far below the legal allowance, with the monthly grains, Assay slip and Sweep to reduce it still further.

Respectfully yours

J. H. Booth

M. & R.